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NEWS RELEASE

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Paul J. McNulty, Acting Deputy Attorney General and United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced that David Michael Kral, age 47, of Mechanicsville, Virginia, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Richard L. Williams to 97 months' incarceration. Kral pled guilty on September 28, 2005, to a two-count criminal information charging him with distribution of child pornography and possession of child pornography.

Kral came to the attention of law enforcement in March 2005 when United States Postal Inspectors, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agents, and other law enforcement officials executed a federal search warrant on the residence of another man in Smithfield, Virginia, seizing a U.S. mail envelope containing, among other things, four pairs of young girls' underwear, sent by Kral to the other man. On March 28, 2005, investigators interviewed Kral, who admitted possessing, receiving, and distributing images of child pornography on his home computer. On April 8, 2005, investigators executed a federal search warrant on Kral's home, seizing his computer. A forensic examination of the defendant's computer revealed dozens of still and moving image files depicting child pornography, including an image file involving a depiction of sadomasochism.

Also announcing the sentencing are: Guy Cottrell, Postal Inspector-In-Charge of the Washington Division, U.S. Postal Inspection Service; Donald W. Thompson, Special Agent-In-Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Richmond Resident Office; and Robert F. McDonnell, Attorney General of Virginia.

This case was investigated by agents of the United States Postal Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Virginia Attorney General's Office and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Elizabeth C. Wu.

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